

given to the highest degrees of genius, and to all degrees of it, so much as may enable them to read and understand what is going on in the world, and to keep their part of it going on right; for nothing can keep it right but their own vigilant and distrustful superintendence. (To Mann Page, 1795. F. VII.,

24-)

EDUCATION.—About twenty years ago I drew up a bill for our legislature which proposed to lay off every county into hundreds or townships of five or six miles square in the centre of each of which was to be a free English school; the whole State was further laid off into ten districts in each of which was to be a college for teaching two languages, geography, surveying and other useful things of that grade; and then a single university for the sciences. (To Joseph Priestly, 1800. F. VII., 414.)

EDUCATION.—I look to the diffusion of light and education as the resource most to be relied on for ameliorating the condition, promoting the virtue, and advancing the happiness of man. That every man shall be made virtuous, by any process whatever, is, indeed, no more to be expected, than that every tree shall be made to bear fruit, and every plant nourishment. The brier and the bramble can never become the vine and the olive; but their asperities may be softened by culture, and their properties improved to usefulness in the order and economy of the world. (To C. C. Blatchley, 1822. C. VII., 263.)

EDUCATION.—I am now entirely absorbed in endeavors to effect the establishment of a general system of education in my native State on the triple basis (i) of elementary schools which shall give to the children of every citizen gratis competent instruction in reading, writing, common arithmetic and general geography. (2) Collegiate institutions for ancient and modern languages, for higher instruction in arithmetic, geog-

raphy and history, placing for this purpose a college within a day's ride of every inhabitant of the State and adding a provision

for the full education at the public expense of select subjects from among the children of the poor who shall have exhibited at the elementary schools the most pronounced indication of aptness of judgment and correct disposition. (3) An

university